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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0968
INFO RUCNMER/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 000599

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>PREL</u> <u>OAS</u> <u>AR</u>

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA CONSIDERING U.S. CANDIDATE FOR OAS

INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE

REF: SECSTATE 45616

(SBU) On May 6, Polcouns delivered reftel demarche and talking points to Martin Romero in the Argentine MFA's Directorate for International Organizations (DIOIN). Romero said that Argentina's OAS Mission had already seen, reviewed, and forwarded to DIOIN information on the proposed U.S. candidate for the Inter-American Juridical Committee (IAJC), Dr. David P. Stewart. Romero spoke highly of Stewart's credentials and appeared to look positively on his candidacy for the IAJC but noted there were other candidates from Peru, Paraguay and Canada to consider for the three seats coming vacant. Romero indicated that DIOIN would further review the U.S. request to support Dr. Stewart in advance of the election on June 3. Post will follow-up to confirm MFA support for U.S. candidate.

WAYNE